

Syrian Coup

A routine check of the Aleppo radio on 25 February 1954 revealed that at 0615 GMT it was not carrying its usual relay of Damascus. The Arabic monitor, not recognizing the voice, began at once to record and translate the broadcast. The speaker was Syrian Captain Haddad issuing an appeal for an uprising, the first public intimation of a proposed overthrow of the Shishakli regime. At once full coverage of the rest of Syria and Lebanon was instituted and the development of the coup reported uninterruptedly until, at 11 p.m. on 25 February, Damascus broadcast the resignation speech of Colonel Shishakli.

FOIAB3B1 ☐ had disseminated Captain Haddad's appeal in Washington about an hour before any other reports of the Syrian uprising were carried elsewhere.